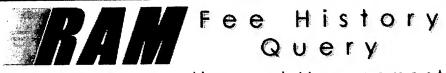
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

FORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

On Appeal to the Board of Appeals and Interferences

Appellant(s)

Akio Yamada et al.

Examiner

: Truc T. Nguyen

Serial No.

10/726,204

Group Art Unit:

2833

Filed

December 2, 2003

Title

CONNECTOR

APPEAL BRIEF

Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

On August 8, 2005, Appellants filed a Notice of Appeal from the final rejection of twice-rejected claims 1-11 and 15 contained in the Office Action dated April 7, 2005. The Notice of Appeal was received by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on August 10, 2005.

Applicants hereby submit, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 41.37, an Appeal Brief in support of the appeal of the rejections of pending claims 1-11 and 15 and a check to cover the fee for a four-month extension.

For the foregoing reasons, the examiner' rejection of claims 1-11 and 15

should be reversed.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Feb 9, 2006

David Loretto

Patent Office Reg. No. 44,374

Attorney for Appellants
Telephone: (212) 408-2584

Baker Botts L.L.P. 30 Rockefeller Plaza New York, NY 10112

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

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APPEAL BRIEF

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Arlington, VA 22313-1450

February 9, 2006

Date of Deposit

David Loretto

44,374

Attorney Name

Registration No.

Signature

February 9, 2006

Date of Signature